Tikvah Star

HEADQUARTERS:
New York
CHAPTERS:
San Francisco, New York, Rochester, St.Louis

CROSSROAD

After weeks of indecision and futile attempts to find, or let us better say define and clarify an aim for Tikvah-St.Louis, the floor has now accepted one, on which we will base our work in 1949. The essence of our resolution amounts to identifying us with all liberal forces in this country who actively participate in the education of the people to reduce and abolish any kind of discrimination.

Before we can start making any plans, let me emphasize the fact that if we really intend to accomplish something, unity within our club is a prerequisite. Unless backed by the entire membership, all our resolutions and discussions will merely be a waste of time and effort. We are numerically not so strong that the continued absence or even indifference and passive behaviour of any member, does not effect our club. Should a member object to the lack of progress, lack of interesting activities, to the unproductiveness of our business meetings, it is his responsibility to call everyone's attention to his objections. Oppose the existing routine by making constructive suggestions, forward own proposals to improve our club. Under no circumstances, however, should anyone fail to attend our meetings, or neglect those duties he has voluntarily accepted. Unless we are united, and represent one whole, not only all our plans for 1949 are doomed to fail, but the existence of our club is endangered. As we know, membership does not end with paying your dues (which you don't) but includes the pledge to invest all your abilities and knowledge in the strengthening and advancement of Tikvah and its principles. Everyone of us can consider himself addressed by the above, and adjust his future conduct accordingly.

F L A S H !!!
HARRY HERBERT WILL VISIT ST.LOUIS ON FEB. 5, 1949
A stag-party will be held on this Saturday. Your presence is necessary to make it a 100% attendance. So, don't forget: meet Harry Herbert on Feb. 5th.

We are entering a new epoch in our divergent activities, which will be greatly effected by this resolution. I doubt if we realize the

TO PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING...

On January 20, 1949 the following resolution, to be incorporated as a foremost task in any platform later adopted, was accepted effective as of this date:

WHEREAS we, the St.Louis chapter of the Tikvah Organization, consider it one of our responsibilities to work for the realization of true democracy which recognizes equality without distinction, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that we adopt as one of our tasks, to try to reduce and abolish prejudice and discrimination by probing the causes of the above and organizing our activities accordingly, furthermore, be it

RESOLVED that we will try to promote interracial understanding by sponsoring cultural and social events; that we will support -within our abilities and judgement - anyone without regard to color, creed, race, nationality or religion who suffers because of discrimination, by trying our best to arouse public interest and making them acquainted with the actual facts.

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LACO DEFENDS HIS TITLE, KO'S OPPONENT IN FIRST ROUND

Alfred Kohn alias LACO is on the war-path again. Contrary to our previous statements (for which we apologies) that he would not defend his title, Laco again is in the Golden Gloves Championship fights. Before we had received the official information from New York, Harry Herbert told us the pleasing news of Laco's latest victory based on a letter he had received the same day. Below please find the critic of a New York paper:

"...Another Glover of Finals fame on Salem-Crescent's 19-bout card of 160-pound Sub-Novice and 135 and 175-pound Open battlers was light-heavyweight ALFRED KOHN, Maccabi AC, who dropped Frank Tennyson unattached, twice in the opening round with savage uppercuts, the last time for keeps....."

Congratulations Laco, get going and let us write and report on more KO's.

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THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO TIKVAH-STAR

which we received recently, displayed such a vitality and anew the old Tikvah-spirit that it was a pleasure to read every line. In this respect it definitely crowns all issues of any branch in the United States to-date.

CAPT'N HARRY HERBERT IN ST.LOUIS
Accepts Honorary Membership

On February 3rd Mr.J.Auerbach Asst.Director of the YMHA informed us that Mr.Harry Herbert would pass St.Louis on the fifth of February and would like to see and meet our group.

We spent a wonderful evening refreshing old memories and discussing various problems related to our chapter. The social committee had provided ample "Tikvah-refreshments" so that everyone was in a good mood. Mr.J.Auerbach had also been kind enough to accept our invitation and accompanied "Harry" to our informal gathering. The main subjects we discussed were the approaching Tikvah-convention, a suitable aim for our chapter, a local and national platform and the admission of girls.

Regarding the convention Harry Herbert pointed out that the present plans consider either the fourth of July or Labor-day in September. Should the convention be in September, the fellows would have more time to save their fare. The national convention should include social affairs, business sessions and organizational procedures, all of which must be prepared in detail. Rooms and Board will be provided by the St.Louis group should the convention be here. Mr.Auerbach assured us that the YMHA will provide suitable rooms to have our "banquet" at their place. At present the plan is still in its infant stage and the New York chapter is inquiring and discussing various proposals.

During our conversation we again realized that the former aims of Tikvah are not sufficient for the United States. To ensure a successful organization many of the old guard have proposed different platforms so that it will be easier to gain new members and build a useful organization up. The best solution would be if every chapter, and individuals not attached to any branch, would submit their proposals to the general convention. A constitution similar in all chapters would also be required. This would necessitate that every chapter sends a copy of their constitution to Headquarters, where either a detailed, or the basic outline of a constitution will be drafted and returned to the chapters for ratification. (The above is published on a suggestive basis.)

A resolution unanimously approved, asked Mr.Harry Herbert to accept the Honorary Membership in our chapter. This resolution was forwarded to him in form of a scroll of parchment-paper. We had a swell time and as Mr.Harry Herbert will pass St.Louis on the 20th of February again, we anticipate to spent another day with him.

MR.JERRY AUERBACH TRANSFERED TO DENVER.

It was through the all-out cooperation of Mr.Auerbach that the local chapter had such an easy start. All facilities of the Y, rooms, the mimeographing machines, the weekly Y-paper, and others were at our disposal. Mr.Auerbach who was associated with the St.Louis YMHA for over three years, will be in charge of several Jewish community centres in Denver. With regret do we see him leave. In any case, we hope to welcome you at our autumn Tikvah-convention, if you can make it. (It's just a jump with the plane from Denver.) Much luck, Jerry.

REPORTS
NEWS
GOSSIP

*** OUTSIDE ST.LOUIS

Our best thanks to GERD KIRSCHNER (Chicago,Ill.) for his Chanukah wishes.-- Due to the induction of CLAUDE SPINGARN, President of Tikvah-Rochester to the armed services, elections will be held in this chapter.-- Whereas Claude will enter the armed services on Jan.15th, HENRY COMPART (Washington,D.C.) has not definite information yet when he will be drafted but is eligible.--Nothing official, but according to unimpeachable sources closely connected with the Chicago-situation, there exists the possibility of forming a new chapter under the leadership of veteran Tikvahite -- Richard Weiss. Again, nothing definite yet but probable due to the location of a "nice bunch of people" who "might" be interested. -- The New Year's party at Stafford's home turned out a success. To crown everything, Maxie Weinblum"once" a chartered member of Tikvah-Shanghai drove down from Chicago to enjoy this event with us. Should a chapter be opened in Chicago some time in the future, we hope that M.W. will be one of its most active members. --- Complains were heard about one of our founders, yes, you read correctly: founders, RABBI A FINE. Our RABBI seems not to support the San Francisco chapter as expected. This time only a small note under "outside news", next time we will "feature" you in a special article. Initially we intended to offer St.Louis to the shivering Californian-Tikvahites, however, since about seven days the thermometer reads between 2° and 10°F above.-- WALTER EICHWALD expects to get several "A's" in Physic, History and English, much luck ambitious, young man.--Richard WEISS spoke to an orthodox congregation in Chicago,Ill., about the Shanghai DP's...he also was glad to have ALFRED BUECHLER -one of the "old gang"- around for the December holidays.-- HEINI DEUTSCH (New York) --"your paper shows the astonishing progress you made. We New Yorker have not remind idle either and our FIRST PAPER WILL FOLLOW SOON. We changed our constitution...girls were admitted...now in demand like war-bonds...career as ping-pong champ over & Eli Rukenstein won't have it difficult beating me...my eyes are focussed on quite a few girls who help forget me my stay in New York. See you ...

IF YOU LIKE IT OR NOT..... Gosh, Gosh,Gosh Vera, was that New Year-party interesting, especially the jokes (Dear Reader, VERA is Kurt's wife)--- When the Stafford-parents returned at 3,30 a.m. a hush fell over those present - the pressing atmosphere of a brooding scandal..soon they knew...enraged they rushed in "their" bedroom & found...a young lady and a young man...sleeping side by side was Eli Ruckenstein's 2½ months old boy with Bessie.--Apologies to Al A. how you really are fast. Usually dogs who bark don't bite, you bark and "bite"...let me repeat Erwin's humble request, to speak now and then in b-flat major.-- Rudy B.did you forget that you are in charge of our "social welfare"..how could you than be so egotistic to deny this enchanting flower for New Year..before offering it to some other deserving Tikvahite.(Anyhow, a pack of wolves seems to be on your trail).--Bully continues his series of either..or..only now one of the participants was pushed aside by "C..a".Outstanding and unexcused member for December : Eli.--Edgar what became of your Thursday swimming, too cold?-- FEBRUARY 24TH new officer's election Get busy "ex.comm."..otherwise...if you will continue to be as efficient, as you have been,well...I doubt... Cheerio

WATCH THOSE FELLOWS !!!

With whom shall we start, the silent or loud, the straight or curly-haired, the interested or disinterested types? To forestall any fire-side troubles let me exclude all married members from this article. Kurt and Eli, we know you both are living in reminiscences of the past, when "freedom" was not a foreign word to you, accept our sympathies.

But now to the others. The searching, courting he-men in our club. There is Fred for example...the 19th century type..smoking pipe, silent usually (unless under the influence of strange liquids, when he melts down and speaks up). We have to refrain from going further into Fred's private life - otherwise his future will not look very "Sunny" for him. And Jonny, rather discriminating against the fair sex, opposes even the admission of girls. Nevertheless always charming...polite(?) at all times (especially when he is on the winning side in a poker-game at about 2.30 a.m.) The Brothers Rudy and Edgar seem to have made up their mind; to take turns, attending our meetings. One seldom sees both at the same meeting. Tall..gentleman-like (if they are dressed up) and "very, very interested"in every phase and activity of our club.We warned you Rudy...wolves are on your trail it seems your future will be without Mar(maids and half-)gots.

Our violinist was rather liberal at our last party, "even" had a girl sitting on his lap.(It took me 83¼ minutes to persuade our censor to pass the last sentence.) However, all in all Erwin is much more interested in his music studies than any girl. (This did not keep him from submitting the girls-amendment for the third time.) We are so out of contact with Sam alias Nicki alias Salomon alias Salo we even don't know his present girl-friend. He is rather agile not only while playing soccer, and a true veteran in all....well, girls just take care. Jerry - a faithful Tikvahite not only interested but also attending all meetings - belongs to the silent type. Few comments one hears....he is on the alert though. Knows how to KO in boxing - and other situations.

Any girl who can take a shock - here is your man (man ?). Alfred. At least that is the impression he likes to create. Just wonder why, between me and the reader ...I really watched him behave well once. Besides his side-burns, mustache and loud voice....he can cooperate if he wants. Let us hope that his desires are always cooperative from now on and forever and ever. Hans, our Editor (The guy who is supposed(!) to issue this paper punctual) our Social-comm. chairman (most of his parties very really - nice) our U.J.A.Affair chairman (we will probably be stepping out of it, before it is too late,very soon) knows how to get along everywhere. Sometimes he entertains some "one-man-rule" notions but usually with the help of the moderating influence of the rest - manages to subdue them. His most valuable attribute (besides his radio with the electric record player) is his conviction that no job is too big to tackle. Well, these are all more or less. Oh no, Josef (the silent partner - we never see him) was nearly forgotten, he is or will be engaged shortly. And than this insignificant fellow Charlias alias Lothar who by some unexplainable circumstances became our chairman. Nothing worthwhile to report about him, except that he constantly is pestering us on attendance, fees, activities etc.etc.etc. Believe me it is disgusting and nerve-braking. Hope he does not know who wrote this.

Henry Compart, Washington D. C., Outstanding in his Work for Shanghai DP's

Henry Compart, former Tikvah-treasurer in China, and well-known for his abilities, again takes the spot-light in his achievements to focus public attention on the Shanghai DP-problem which was thoroughly discussed in our December issue.

Not only did he campaign in the Madada group, of which he is vice-president, but also in the BBYM, Junior Hadassa as well as in the Washington D.C. Youth Council. In a letter to the State Dept., the Masada-group received the following reply:

My dear Mr. Compart:

By reference from the White House. I have received your letter of November 29, 1948 regarding the possibility of the evacuation of the displaced persons who are now in Shanghai.

The department is following the refugee situation in China closely, and you may be sure that every practicable step is being taken toward safeguarding and and resettling these persons.

Sincerely yours,
For the Secretary of State
(signed) Leonard R.Cowles
Chief
Public Views and Inquiries Section
Division of Public Liaison.

Furthermore he printed pamphlets to be distributed at the Masada National Convention in Atlantic City. During the past month he had an opportunity to appear on an ORT program on television, in which through his initiative the Shanghai DP's were mentioned, too.

Our place in Jewish Community Life in America

Every newcomer to a community in this country and especially the immigrant faces the problem of adjusting himself and intigrating into his new environment without giving up his own personal identity. To whom ifentity is just accumulated traditions without real meaning will either withdraw himself into a cosy seclusion or will finally throw cherboard his own identity under the powerful influence of his environment. I think it will be mutually understood that neither extreme is desireable. It would not help us nor the community we live in. When Tikvah Rochester came into existence we were not only under the fire of criticism from outside scources but also our self-criticism. The situation was very similar to the origination of the J.Y. or Y.M.H.A.'s in this country. These institutions were created after Jews were rejected from other Centers or in less extreme cases were supposed to create a more welcoming atmosphere for the Jewish Youth. It is sad to note that our Jewish Centers were created under such forced conditions instead of out of a voluntary wish to perpetuate our own Jewish culture. The rebirth of the Jewish Nation together with the regeneration of it's culture and spirit, finally

brought to the Jewish Communities in the United States the growing realisation of the real democratic spirit this country was founded on. One of the biggest factors in our democracy is the important role of minority groups, on which this country is made up. The sheer numbers of these minority groups prevent any group to dominate the political, religious, racial or social field. Sorry to say this does not hold water for the economical field, though.
Under these conditions minority groups are aware that the complete segregation or surrender of their characteristics would finally result in a rigid society with no room for progressive developement. If Tikval groups, now in existence or in blue print stage, will recognise and base their activities on those lines we will surely have a positive place in our communities.

Claude Spinarn
Rochester, N.Y.

Claude Spingarn is the present President of Tikvah-Rochester, N.Y. Through his and Harry Methner's initiative the Rochester-chapter was founded. Claude received his induction papers and will habe to report of January 14, 1949, and thus he will be the first Tikvahite who actually is drafted for active service. Much lick to you, Claude.